

The Rush County Council met in regular session on Wednesday, October 14, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. with Norman Winkler, Chairman, John Pavey, Gerald Mohr, Warren Norris, Bruce Levi, Kevin Spilman, Jerry Kent, Leigh Morning, Attorney, and Deborah Adams, Auditor in attendance.

Chairman, Norman Winkler called the meeting to order. Minutes of the September 15th, and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting were approved on a motion by Gerald Mohr, seconded by Warren Norris. Motion carried.

### **E.C.D.C.**

Commissioner Ken Masters appeared before the council to discuss possible infrastructure for Emerson Technology. The infrastructure would involve the extension of Cherry Street to county road 200 north. Discussion was held regarding funding. Masters did inform the council that a bond could be done for the building of a road. If INDOT builds the road the competition date will possibly be 2013 and at a possible cost of \$3.5 to \$3.8 million. If the county were to privately build the road the cost projection would be approximately \$2 million. Masters asked the council to consider contracting Butler, Fairman and Seifert to perform a study of the proposed project.

Masters also discussed the drainage issues that are involved with the road proposal.

Pam Leisure, Chamber director invited the council to attend an information meeting to be held in the courthouse assembly room, Monday, October 19th. The meeting will begin at 10:30am. Auditor Deborah Adams will inform the media of the meeting.

### **CIRCUIT COURT**

Warren made the motion to transfer \$1,250.00 from Office supplies (1-17-2-1) into Law Books (1-17-4-3), Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Judge Northam received the authority to advertise for an additional appropriation of \$7,500.00 in the Jury Fee Fund (177-1000-3-3). The additional appropriation will be addressed during the November meeting.

Jerry Kent made the motion to approve and sign Amended Resolution 2009-16. Gerald Mohr seconded the motion. Motion carried. \$1,557.33 will be returned to Law Books (1-17-4-3) that was previously removed.

INSERT AMENDED ORDINANCE HERE

## **RUSH MEMORIAL AMBULANCE**

Brad Smith, CEO of Rush Memorial Hospital provided the council with an eight month Ambulance Financial Statement and Volume Report.

## **RUSH MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**

Sandy Gwinnup, Rush Memorial Hospital Board President, asked the council to partner with the hospital board regarding finding a replacement for current retiring board member Tony Laird. The council informed Gwinnup that Laird had yet to formally announce his retirement. Laird's two (2) year appointment will expire December 31, 2009.

Gwinnup recommended that a nominating committee consisting of two (2) council members and two (2) hospital board members be created. Gwinnup indicated that the board replacement needed to be someone with health care knowledge. The commissioners, board president or the hospital CEO will not be able to serve as the board representative.

County Attorney when questioned reported that council members could not be appointed to serve on the board, yet other elected officials could be appointed to serve. Gerald Mohr made the motion to create a nominating committee consisting of two (2) council members and two (2) hospital board members. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried. Gerald Mohr and Kevin Spilman will serve on the nominating committee. The position will be advertised along with other council appointments. The cut off date will be November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Brad Smith discussed the current situation of the Rush Memorial Ambulance along with their covering Milroy area. Smith encouraged the council to look at a county wide ambulance plan and to look at Rush County as a whole. Smith finished by explaining that it is time, in fact past time to look at a county wide service. The council should have a pro-active role and not a reactive role.

## **RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Verlin Custer, Raleigh Fire Chief, discussed the budget cut to the Raleigh fire department. Raleigh submitted a request of \$48,000.00 of which the commissioners submitted in their budget proposal. The council approved \$45,000.00 of which Custer noted is a 6% cut. Custer shared his concerns of Rush Memorial Ambulance not being cut the same 6%. Custer did remind the council that Raleigh is now covering a larger area and asked the council to return the removed \$3,000 back into their budget appropriation.

Custer did share his surprise of Rush Memorial Hospital CEO encouraging a county wide ambulance service. Custer reported that the volunteers are doing their jobs, and that Carthage is doing a better job since their radio situation was fixed. Custer finished by stating that the volunteer EMT can get the job done if allowed.

Jerry Kent informed Custer that no council member had heard prior to the meeting of the possible doing away with the volunteer ambulance service. Kent did share his thoughts that the council would have no problem looking at the appropriation once the state approves the budget.

Deborah Adams indicated that the state is currently working the counties budget and budget answers should be received in about forty-five (45) to sixty (60) days.

### **CLERK**

Debbie Richardson, Clerk, reported that the computer that was provided by the Indiana Election Division has died. The computer is used in the Voter Registration department. Gerald Mohr made the motion to allow Richardson to spend \$810.17 from the Election Budget for the computer replacement. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **HIGHWAY**

Jerry Sitton, Highway Superintendent, asked the council to approve a \$75,000.00 additional appropriation for Cum Bridge (3-303-4-5). Jerry Kent made the motion to approve the additional appropriation. John Pavey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sitton was asked his thoughts regarding the Cherry Street infrastructure project. Sitton share his concerns that the drainage issues do need resolved, and that the road is needed for the potential semi traffic. Sitton indicated that it would be nice to go with federal funds, but waiting five to seven years was a concern. Sitton did share his concerns of funding as a bond project, and that this bond project could limit future building of bridge replacement. Sitton noted that there are currently no other funds for funding a bridge replacement project. Sitton recommended that Butler, Fairman, Siefert perform a price cost estimate for the council prior to making any decisions.

### **SHERIFF**

Jeff Sherwood, Sheriff, reported forty-two inmates currently being housed in the Rush County jail.

Sherwood reported that he cut \$2,000.00 from his heating and cooling appropriation and now a unit needs replaced at the cost of \$5,000.

Sherwood reported that a \$1,000.00 donation for the K-9 dog program was received from POC Industries.

Sherwood reported that he did order one (1) 2010 Dodge Charger at a cost of \$18,564.00 of which included the trade in. Sherwood reported that he would like to get another SUV and pass the oldest vehicle onto the surveyor. Sherwood noted that he has had problems locating any tan SUV's. Sherwood discussed the possibility of purchasing an unmarked vehicle.

Sherwood reported that Verizon representative Gene Wooley has received a letter from Rushville City Police Chief Ron Cameron. Cameron has asked for the cities portion of the E-9-1-1 fees to be directed to the city and not to the county. Wooley indicated that he is unable to accommodate Cameron's request.

Sherwood reported that the Merit Board has recently met and desires to fill a merit rank Lt. Position. This filled position would then create an opening in the Sgt. Position. Sherwood reported that no funding of these rankings is part of the 2010 budget and would need to be addressed in the 2011 budget. Sherwood noted that the Merit board is attempting to create leadership roles.

Kevin Spilman questioned the possibility of capturing future grant monies for financing merit deputies. Sherwood reported that this area has not been researched, due to the fact that once funding runs out the county must find other possible funding of the position(s). The funding of a position also includes other additional expenses such as vehicle, equipment and benefits.

### **SUPERIOR COURT**

Gerald Mohr made the motion to allow the \$750.00 transfer from Superior court appropriation (1-18-3-11) Petit Jury into the Circuit Court appropriation (1-17-3-15) Per Diem Petit. John Pavey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **HEALTH**

John Pavey made the motion to allow the \$3,139.00 transfer from appropriation (107-1000-2-2) supplies of the Health Maintenance Tobacco Supplement Fund into appropriation (107-1000-3-5) Vehicle Maintenance. Kevin Spilman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **REASSESSMENT**

Warren Norris made the motion to allow the transfer of \$13,750.00 from appropriation (99-1000-2-2) Data Input into appropriation (99-1000-3-4) Contractual. Gerald Mohr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **NON-BINDING RESOLUTIONS**

The council reviewed the budgets of the Rushville Public Library and the Carthage Henley-Henry Library. The council made no recommendations. The Non-Binding Resolution 2009-17 was approved and signed on a motion by Kevin Spilman, seconded by Gerald Mohr. Motion carried. The Non-Binding Resolution 2009-18 was approved and signed on a motion by Bruce Levi, seconded by John Pavey. Motion carried.

### **AREA PLAN**

The council approved Ordinance 2009-1 an ordinance establishing a fund for the deposit of monies collected from fines and fees imposed by the Rush County Area Plan Commission for the clean-up of properties. Gerald Mohr made the motion to approve the ordinance. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **RAINY DAY FUND**

Resolution 2009-19 transferring \$33,619.59 of Family and Children funds from the Excess Levy funds into the Rainy Day Fund along with \$108,361.78 of Family and Children Children's Psychiatric Residential Treatment services Excess Levy funds into the Rainy Day

fund was approved and signed on a motion by John Pavey, seconded by Warren Norris. Motion carried.

After further discussion Kevin Spilman made the motion to pay off the Welfare Debt Bond early if no penalties were assessed. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn was initiated by John Pavey. Gerald Mohr seconded the motion, motion carried.

_____ Norman Winkler, Chairman	_____ John Pavey	_____ Gerald Mohr
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_____ Warren Norris	_____ Bruce Levi	_____ Kevin Spilman
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_____ Jerry Kent
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